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Ex-Miami City Manager Can Laugh About '48

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WASHINGTON — The wound obviously had long since healed. It didn't hurt when Richard Danner talked about what happened to him in Miami 13 years ago.



In fact, he could laugh about it.

Three of the five commissioners decided in 1948 that Danner had had it as city manager. So Danner cleaned out his desk at city hall, after having been in office less than two years.

Danner may have experienced great bitterness in 1948. But in 1961 he could follow the flap over the sudden firing of Melvin Reese with amused detachment.

"That's Miami politics for you," Danner chuckled. "You'd think they could have come up with a better excuse for firing him — like not approving of the way he combed his hair."

Danner could not conceal his pleasure over the fact that two of the commissioners who voted to fire Reese buckled under the heat generated by an indignant citizenry.

DANNER HAS COME FULL



Richard Danner

— full circle

circle in 25 years. He has just been licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, something he started out to do in 1936.

He took the DC bar examination that year shortly after his graduation from Georgetown University law school.

But before he even found out whether he had passed the bar, Danner joined the FBI.

In 1940 the FBI assigned him to Miami. He was agent in charge of the FBI in Florida in 1946 when he quit to manage Sen. George Smathers' first campaign for Congress.

Smathers won and Danner became city manager. The late

Abe Aronovitz maintained that Smathers had much to do with Danner's appointment.

Danner went from city hall into the automobile business in Delray Beach, West Palm Beach and Vero Beach. He moved to Fort Worth in 1953 and sold his car agency there this year.

Before going into law practice in Washington, Danner put in six weeks with the Central Intelligence Agency this spring.

On this Danner is understandably mum. But it's no secret that Danner is familiar with Miami and that the CIA was busily engaged in that city this spring.

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THE NUMBER of widowed men in this country dropped by more than two per cent from 1950 to 1960.

But the Census Bureau reports that there was increase of over 59 per cent in Florida during that period.

Even with that big jump, however, the widowers still lost ground to the widows, who increased by 66 per cent.

There are now some 3½ times as many widows in Florida as there are widowers — 238,900 to 66,831.

Florida, the Census Bureau says, had the largest percentage increase of all states for both widows and widowers.

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